

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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body. This message is in all the boxes but it's an important enough message that I think I need to remind all of the members today, and I'm going to read it, word-for-word: Bill requests submitted to the Bill Drafting staff by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 12, 2001, will be guaranteed to be ready for introduction before adjournment on the tenth legislative day. If you wait till next week it may work for you, but it may not work for you. The guarantee is requests received by 5:00 p.m. tomorrow afternoon will be back in time to be introduced. Sometimes people miss that and we wanted to make sure that everyone in this body was aware of that deadline. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Members, if I could have your attention. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I move that a committee of five be appointed to escort the Governor of the state of Nebraska to the Legislative Chamber to deliver his State of the State and budget Address.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Redfield. You've heard the motion. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed nay. The motion carries. Would the following senators please form and escort the Governor: Senators Bourne, Senator Burling, Senator Bourne...or, excuse me, Senator Stuhr, Senator Suttle, Senator Baker. Madam Sergeant at Arms.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mr. President, your committee now escorting the Governor of the great state of Nebraska, Mike Johanns, and his wife, Stephanie.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: (Gavel) Governor Johanns.

GOVERNOR JOHANNs: Lieutenant Governor Maurstad, Speaker Kristensen, members of the Legislature, distinguished guests and friends and, of course, fellow Nebraskans, I am pleased to report that the state of our state is strong. Our unemployment rate continues to be one of the lowest in the nation, our funding for education is among the best in the country, our population growth is exceeding expectations, and our state